

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing amendments is respectfully requested.

Summary of Amendments

By the foregoing amendments claims 11-30 are cancelled and claims 31-50 are added. Accordingly, upon entry of this amendment, claims 31-50 will be pending in this application, with claims 31, 39, 47, 49 and 50 being independent claims.

Support for the new claims can be found throughout the present specification and the original claims.

Applicants point out that the cancellation of claims 11-30 is without prejudice or disclaimer, and Applicants expressly reserve the right to prosecute the cancelled claims in one or more continuation and/or divisional applications.

Summary of Office Action

As an initial matter, Applicants note with appreciation that the Examiner has acknowledged the claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f) and the receipt of certified copies of the priority documents.

Applicants also note that a signed but uninitialed copy of the Form PTO-1449 submitted in the Information Disclosure Statement filed December 13, 2006 has been returned together with the present Office Action. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that a signed **and initialed** copy of the Form PTO-1449 submitted in the Information Disclosure Statement filed December 13, 2006

be returned with the next official communication.

Applicants further thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 14-25, 27, 29 and 30 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 11-13, 26 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as allegedly being anticipated by Goppel et al., WO 03/039492 (hereafter "GOPPEL").

Response to Office Action

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of record are respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 11-13, 26 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as allegedly being anticipated by GOPPEL. The rejection alleges that GOPPEL teaches a non-woven comprising cotton fibers which are treated with 3-(N-n-butyl-N-acetylamino)propionate.

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. At any rate, present independent claims 39, 47, 49 and 50 recite language from cancelled claims 15, 18, 27, which latter claims have been indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Independent claim 31 corresponds generally to cancelled claim 13. In this regard, Applicants respectfully submit that they were unable to find in GOPPEL any teaching or suggestion regarding a textile which comprises from 1% to 30% by weight of cotton fibers, based on a total weight of the textile.

Applicants note that the present Office Action indicates that "a full translation of the WO

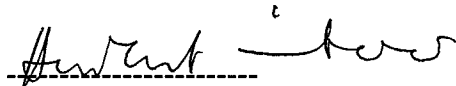
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document will be provided in the next Office Action". In this regard, it is respectfully requested that another non-final Office Action be issued should the Examiner reject any of the present claims on grounds which are based on the full translation of GOPPEL to provide Applicants with a fair and complete opportunity to address the Examiner's concerns.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested. If any issues yet remain which can be resolved by a telephone conference, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,
Rainer KROEPKE et al.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Neil F. Greenblum", is written over a horizontal dashed line.

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